	SC	*ST*	*TOTAL*
Group B posts (Assistants, Cypher Assist ants, Gr. II PAs, PSs)	4	1	5
Group A posts	Nil	Nil	Nil

(c) Recruitment to all the categories (except Group D and Cypher Assistant) is through open competitive examinations conducted by Staff Selection Commission/ Union Public Service Commission. The unfilled SC\ST vacancies of previous years have been included in the indents placed with Staff Selection Commission for allotment of candidates from the examinations held/to be held during the current year. The Ministry is also participating in the Special Recruitment Drive, being undertaken to fill up the backlog.

As regards Group D, applications have already been invited from Scheduled Tribe candidates with a view to fill up the vacancies.

As for Cypher Assistants, the recruitment is through a Limited Departmental Examination. SC/ST candidates are encouraged to participate and given the benefit of reservation as well as relaxation of standards so that no backlog of reserved vacancies should remain.

[*English*]

Allotment of LPG agencies in Andhra Pradesh

3524. SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the details of the new LPG agencies proposed to be allotted during 1991-92 in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR) Allocation of new LPG agencies are done on the basis of approved Marketing Plans from time to time. No new Marketing Plan has been separately finalised for the year 1991-92.

[*Translation*]

External Assistance for Irrigation Projects

3525. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign institutions had provided financial assistance to each State for the implemention of irrigation projects during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) whether similar assistance is proposed to be provided to each State during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) During the 7th Five-year Plan, Irrigation Projects were under implementation with external assistance in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajastha, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b) External assistance to Irrigation Projects in the above States is expected to continue during the 8th Five-year Plane.

Irrigation Projects and Dams in Bihar

3526. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY
SHRI LALIT ORAON

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation projects and dams in Bihar pending with the Union Government;

(b) the details of the on-going irrigation projects and dams in the State;

(c) whether some of them are running behind schedule;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(e) the extent of cost escalation as a result of the delay; and

(f) the time by which those are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) A statement giving details of irrigation projects of Bihar together with their appraisal status is attached as Statement I.

(b) to (f). A statement giving details of appraised ongoing major and medium irrigation projects of Bihar and their plan of completion is attached as Statement II.